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In making this appeal to you, your attention is drawn to certain events which recently took place in Barcelona.

On the 9th March last, at the invitation of the ecclesiastical authorities concerned, there was held in the Capuchin Monastery of Sarriá in the suburbs of Barcelona a Constituent Assembly of the Democratic Union of Students of the University of Barcelona. This meeting was attended by upwards of 500 students and by some 35 university teachers and other personalities from the artistic and literary world of Catalonia, and in addition by a representative of the International Confederation of Students and a representative of the National Union of Students of the United States of America. This Assembly was the result of many efforts by the Spanish students concerned to obtain permission from the University and State authorities to organise a free students' union of their own. It will be recalled that similar protests were made by students of Madrid University more than a year ago as a result of which an undertaking was made to look into the possibility of organising an independent association of this kind.

On the 11th March, by which time

Ir. Murdoch (Novelist)

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Konnie Zilliacus (M.P.)

On the 11th March, by which time the meeting at Sarriá had ended and the Monastery had been surrounded by the police for two days, the latter made a forcible entrance, this being the first time apparently since the end of the Civil War that such an action had been taken against an ecclesiastical institution. After detention and police interrogation lasting 72 hours, those detained (some of the students and all the others concerned) were discharged. This entry by the police into the Capuchin Monastery in Barcelona, which was carried out without ecclesiastical authorisation and which is in contravention of the Concordat signed by the Spanish Government and the Vatican, produced a strike of students in Barcelona University and of students in several other Spanish cities, the most vociferous demonstration being that held at the Free University in Pamplona. (You will have read in the press that in the last two or three weeks, further demonstrations have taken place in Madrid, Barcelona and other university centres, and that the University of Barcelona has been closed for an indefinite period.)

A month after the Sarriá meeting, it was announced in the Spanish press that fines, ranging from 25,000 to 200,000 pesetas, were being imposed on many of the professional people who had taken part in it (this information was made public in La Vanguardia of the 14th April and in the Barcelona evening paper,

Tel/Expres, of the 12th April). Details of the fines with the names of the people concerned are provided on a sheet accompanying this letter. It is of interest to note that those fined include Dr. J. Rubió (now 80 years of age), the very distinguished literary scholar and President of the Institute of Catalan Studies; Oriol Bohigas, the well-known Barcelona architect; Antoni Tàpies, the abstract painter; Dr. J.A. García Calvo, who last year lost his Chair of Latin in Madrid for taking part in similar student protests, and the two famous Catalan poets, Salvador Espriu and Pere Quart. It is important to point out that the list of those fined also includes several young university teachers, and that they and several of the others find themselves in an extremely difficult financial position as a result of this action by the Spanish authorities (according to Spanish legal practice, if a person is unable to pay such a fine, the authorities will proceed to confiscate his property).

It is hoped that these events will in themselves arouse your active disapproval of this action taken against university teachers and students as well as others in the intellectual life of Spain. At a time when the material prosperity of Spain is bringing great benefit to people of many classes, it is greatly to be regretted that the Spanish régime does not see fit to grant to those, from whom the future leaders of the country will emerge, rights of assembly and discussion which are recognised as basic in civilized life. It is further to be hoped that you feel these colleagues in Spain deserve your assistance, and the sponsors would be most grateful if you would contribute to a fund to collect money to help in the payment of these unjust and heavy fines.

Cheques/P.O. should be made out to :
Appeal Committee to Help Spanish Intellect-
tuals, and sent to the following address :

A.C.H.S.I.,
c/o Frishman Spyer Associates,
49, Goodge St.,
London, W.1.

All contributions will be gratefully
acknowledged.

Please find enclosed a cheque/P.O. for £ s d.

Name.....

Address.....

NAMES OF THOSE FINED WITH RELEVANT DETAILS

Jordi Rubió.....	200.000	pesetas.	Former Professor, University of Barcelona
A. Moragas.....	200.000	"	Dean of the Architects' Union
A. García Calvo.....	200.000	"	Former Professor of Latin, University of Madrid
A. Tàpies.....	200.000	"	Painter
Carlos Barral.....	200.000	"	Poet and publisher
J.M. Martorell.....	200.000	"	Architect
J. Oliver, "Pere Qaurt".....	150.000	"	Writer
S. Espriu.....	100.000	"	Writer
J.M. Vidal.....	100.000	"	University Lecturer
J. Solé Tura.....	100.000	"	" "
A. Jutglar.....	100.000	"	Writer and University Lecturer
Oriol Bohigas.....	100.000	"	Architect and University Lecturer
M. Sacristán.....	100.000	"	Former University Lecturer and Writer
J. Cano Tembleque....	100.000	"	University Lecturer
Javier Folch.....	55.000	"	" "
Françesc Vallverdú...	25.000	"	Poet
Joaquim Molas.....	25.000	"	Literary Critic and Former Assistant Lecturer at the University of Liverpool
Joaquín Marco.....	25.000	"	Poet and University Lecturer (Former Assistant Lecturer at the University of Liverpool)
José A. Goytisolo....	25.000	"	Poet
A. Ràfols Casamada...	25.000	"	Painter
Enrich Lluch.....	25.000	"	University Lecturer (Former Assistant Lecturer at the University of Liverpool)
G. Oliver.....	25.000	"	} University Lecturer
J.M. Obiols.....	25.000	"	
R. Martín.....	25.000	"	
Jordi Molina.....	25.000	"	
L. Domenech.....	25.000	"	
L. Dauff.....	25.000	"	
L. Carreño.....	25.000	"	
M. Yzart.....	25.000	"	
J.A. Asens.....	25.000	"	"